

## **DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY**

## HEADQUARTERS 8725 JOHN J. KINGMAN ROAD FORT BELVOIR, VIRGINIA 22060-6221

November 7, 2019

Tony Espinoza Synergetic Technologies Group, Inc. 1712 Earhart Court La Verne, CA 91750

Mr. Espinoza,

This response addresses your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for abstract records. Your FOIA request was assigned the FOIA control number of DLA-HQ-2020-000169.

Enclosed are the records we have in response to your request which are released in part pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4) and 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5).

Due to changes in the DoD FOIA Regulation (32 CFR Part 286, Jan. 5, 2017) and following consultation with DLA Office of General Counsel, DLA has determined that releasing both the CAGE code and the unit price bid of losing bidders would likely constitute release of commercial proprietary information.

As economic theory more strongly supports the value to the market of release of unit price bid vice CAGE code, DLA has determined that the CAGE code of losing bidders must be withheld in accordance with Exemption 4 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4). Pursuant to Exemption 4, certain non-government financial information is exempt from disclosure. Exemption 4 protects: trade secrets; or information that is commercial or financial, obtained from a person or entity outside of the U.S. Government, and privileged or confidential.

Internal control numbers associated with funding citations as well as pricing logic elements are withheld under Exemption 5 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5), which protects internal deliberative records and records the release of which would likely place the government at a competitive disadvantage in the procurement process.

You have the right to appeal this partial denial. An appeal must be made in writing to DLA FOIA Appellate Authority within 90 calendar days from the date of this letter, and no later than 5:00 pm Eastern Standard Time. The appeal should include your reasons for reconsideration and enclose a copy of this letter. An appeal may be submitted on <a href="https://foiaonline.gov">https://foiaonline.gov</a>, or mailed. Appeals are to be addressed to the Information Governance and Compliance Office, Defense Logistics Agency, Suite 1326, ATTN: FOIA Appeal, 8725 John J. Kingman Road, Fort Belvoir, Virginia 22060-6221.

This agency decision concludes the processing of your request(s) referred to above. As part of the 2007 FOIA amendments, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) was created to offer mediation services. Similarly, as part of the FOIA Improvement Act of 2016, DLA established a FOIA Public Liaison to offer mediation services. Both OGIS and the DLA Public Liaison will assist in resolving disputes between FOIA requesters and DLA as a non-exclusive alternative to appeal. Using OGIS or the DLA FOIA Public Liaison does not affect your right to pursue appeal nor does it stay the appeal clock. You may contact OGIS or the DLA Public Liaison in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services National Archives and Records Administration Room 2510 8601 Adelphi Road College Park, MD 20740-6001

E-mail: ogis@nara.gov Telephone: 202-741-5770 Facsimile: 202-741-5769 Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

DLA FOIA Public Liaison Lewis Oleinick, CIPP/US/G Defense Logistics Agency Suite 1326, ATTN: IGC (FOIA/PA) 8725 John J. Kingman Rd. Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-6221 571-767-6194 (w) FOIA.Liaison@dla.mil

The balance for your FOIA request on the enclosed invoice is now due. For greater payment efficiency, our agency no longer accepts mailed checks and money orders. Please go to pay.gov for payment options. Please go to the website, place "dla" in the search, scroll down and choose DFAS Columbus Form 6335. Attached for your convenience is a step-by-step instruction guide for using pay.gov. Please email your payment confirmation (receipt) to Foia payment@dla.mil, so we can properly credit your FOIA account.

If you have any questions, please contact Shirley Brown, at shirley.brown@dla.mil, 215-737-2199. Please reference the FOIA control number above for any communication.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Geatta

Michael D. Yeatts Management Analyst